

Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Sixth Year No. 12

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Official County Paper



Because continued purchases of aluminum from the Aluminum Company of Canada were so frequently referred to in the successful fight waged by Washington and Oregon congressmen to prevent the closing of plants at Spokane, Tacoma and Troutdale, a brief review of the contract with the Chipaw concern may be of interest to residents of the north. The original contract was made by Metals Reserve Co., at the request of the office of production management, in May, 1941 when the need for enormous supplies of aluminum became apparent. The contract was for 170,000 metric tons at 17 cents a pound, the then prevailing price in the United States. An advance payment of \$25,000,000 was made by RFC at 2 percent interest, to be amortized at the rate of 6 2/3 cents per pound of aluminum delivered. Ten days later office of production management asked that the quantity to be purchased be doubled and another loan of \$25,000,000 at 3 per cent interest was made by the export-import bank.

In negotiations with the aluminum company of America to build and operate plants in this country a price of 15 cents per pound was obtained, and Aluminum Company of Canada was induced to reduce its price accordingly. To obtain this reduction interest on the advance payments was waived. The reduction from 17 to 15 cents saved Metals Reserve Co., \$16,000,000 while only \$2,500,000 was waived in interest. In 1942 war production board requested another increase in purchase of Canadian aluminum by 370,000,000 pounds. This was made at the reduced schedule. The aluminum is being delivered regularly, but the contract provides for a fixed basis of cancellation on any part of that aluminum Metals Reserve Co., may decide not to buy. Money advanced the Aluminum Co. of Canada is in the form of loans for the repayment of which nearly 500,000,000 pounds of aluminum has already been delivered.

The total output of aluminum has been so great that an enormous stockpile is accumulating and it was this reason that war production board ordered the closing of 12 government financed aluminum plants in the east and south. The order does not affect plants at Vancouver and Longview, Wash., which are privately owned.

An example of how delay in the serious consideration of bills may be caused by the fads and idiosyncrasies of members of congress found typical illustration when the senate was passing on committee amendments to the new tax measure. Senator Langer of North Dakota, who has established something of a reputation for legislative foibles, offered an amendment increasing the exemption for dependent children from \$350 for the first child up to \$9,800 for eight children and \$2,500 each child above that number. Senator Langer argued that adoption of his amendment would tend to avert a decreasing birth rate after the war by imposing a larger proportion of the tax burden on wealthy people who are childless. The amendment was rejected without rollcall, but it delayed orderly proceedings in the senate for a considerable time and added just so much to the cost of printing the Congressional Record.

Veterans of world war No. 1 who have been given medical discharges are already being made the victims of union labor con-

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Nazi Soldiers Appear Happiest When Not Fighting



Left: A few hours rest has been granted to these Nazi soldiers who are pictured entertaining themselves somewhere along the Russian front. With Russia's great ally, winter, now in action there is little time for rest in German ranks. This picture was found by the Russians. Right: This photograph which was radioed from Algiers shows young Nazi prisoners of the 26th panzer regiment taken captive in Italy. They smile at the camera, apparently pleased that they are prisoners and no longer must fight and face the difficulties of war against the Allies.

Pre-Induction Examination Journey Taken

Potential service men left Wednesday of this week to take physical examinations preparatory to probable induction. Under a new schedule men are now called in for physical examination at least 21 days before being called. Selective service may call them in that time or may not depending on need for replacements.

Going were: William Clothier, Wasco grocer with wife and daughter, Clyde Fridley of Wasco, Ronald Bishop of Rufus, Mac Hall of Moro, Bob Helyer of Kent, Loyd Kelley of Moro and Gordon Lemley of Grass Valley. Malcolm McDermid of Wasco was already in Portland and Newton Fuller now of Portland were also called.

Green and Blue Stamps Usable Soon

Green Stamps K, L, and M in Book 4 will be used by consumers for buying processed foods between February 1 and March 20 the OPA announces.

These are the last green stamps on the page, and the last green stamps that will be used for the time being. New Blue stamps and ration coupons will be used February 27. Both may be used from February 27 until March 20. Green stamps should be used first as they expire first.

Green stamps will be worth the familiar 8, 5, 2, 1, points and the blues will be worth 10 points each.

Wasco Woman Hears Of Lost Brother

Donald Craig, brother of Mrs. Jack Wilson, was one of eight men who recently returned to Assam, India after eight months under siege in a jungle outpost during which time they fought off a Japanese force four times their size.

They spent 13 days walking out through ankle deep mud most of the way. Sgt. Peter Krug of San Francisco, was commander of the unit. Native Kachim volunteers and the Americans spent three days on 24 hour duty guarding vine entangled paths to cover their escape. The enemy surrounded the post and they escaped over an 8000 foot pass only four hours ahead of the Japs. Three days later, with reinforcements, they returned and took the post from the Japs.

For three weeks before supplies were dropped from planes they ate deer, rice and monkey stew at Naga huts and had only two bars of soap during the whole time.

Many Farmers Take Loans On Farm Products

Approximately 2000 Oregon farmers obtained commodity loans to assist in marketing 1943 crops according to a report released this week by the state AAA office on Commodity Credit loan programs administered by county AAA committees.

Clyde L. Kiddle, commodity loan assistant for the AAA committee, pointed out that loans are offered producers to maintain prices at support levels, and to enable growers to hold their crops until they can be marketed through normal channels. Loans were on four commodities, potatoes, wheat, barley and dry edible beans. Total amount borrowed by growers was \$7,508,248.54, a sharp drop from the year previous.

Most of the loans were made on wheat, with 1910 loans being made on 6,136,955 bushels in warehouses and farm storage. Total amount loaned on wheat was \$7,385,712.30. The average loan rate for the state was \$1.20 a bushel. Reflecting improved marketing conditions, the 1943 wheat loan volume was less than half the previous year's figure.

The number of barley loans also was considerably less than in 1942, with only 19 loans being made on 37,753 bushels. Growers received \$28,202, at an average loan rate of 75 cents a bushel.

Potato loans were made to 45 producers on 4,494,600 pounds. At an average rate of \$1.37 a hundred weight, the loans totaled \$61,526.60. Market prices above the loan value in some areas and lack of suitable storage facilities in other areas tended to lessen grower interest in the potato loan program, Kiddle believes.

NATION BOOK RECORD MAY SAVE TROUBLE

Take a look at the family's war ration books today to make certain that every one has the address on the cover filled in completely. This precaution has been suggested by the OPA because hundreds of lost ration books, which have been dropped in the mail, by finders, are being sent to the dead letter office for lack of an address. Many lost books could be returned if correct addresses were filled in on the covers. The post office has agreed to forward a lost ration book if the owner can be located.

Reminder—smare stamp number two in war ration book four will be good through January 15 for five points in the purchase of fresh pork and sausage. This smare stamp can't bring home the bacon, though, for it's not valid for smoked or cured pork. Nor is it good for the purchase

Committee Named To Aid Investment Sales

Circuit Judge George Updegraff, Fred Krusow, who was most active in the sale of bonds in World War I, and L. E. Kaseberg, prosperous Wasco farmer, were named Thursday as a committee to augment the sale of other than E bonds in Sherman county. Principal interest of the committee will be the sale of Series C savings notes which can be used for payment of income taxes. They are three year notes and come in denominations from \$100 to \$1,000,000.

Local farmers, somewhat worried over the complexities of the income tax blanks, and considering it possible that they may be called upon for additional payment are buying these bonds as a safety measure.

Another feature of the bonds is that they may be used as collateral for loans, thus giving protection against income tax inaccuracies with little loss of usable capital.

Farmers Paying To NFL Association

Pacific northwest farmers last year wiped out \$18,000,000, or 22 percent, of their total mortgage indebtedness to the Federal Land Bank of Spokane. R. E. Brown, president, reported to his board of directors at the annual meeting of the bank.

Loan pay-offs, prior to maturity, were practically double the preceding year and principal payments on other loans were 38 percent ahead of 1942.

With \$3,367,406 in new loans added to the books, the bank finished the year with \$68,271,672 in the mortgage loan account, as against \$83,554,084 on Dec. 31, 1942.

During 1943 the bank paid off the last of \$15,000,000 of capital stock subscribed by the government during the early thirties, thus placing its stock entirely in the hands of national farm loan associations and farmer-borrowers.

The bank cut its real estate inventory to 39 farms, a reduction of 131 from Dec. 31, 1942, and a decrease of 4,000 from the peak in March 1937.

JACK VON BORSTEL MAKES OSC HONOR ROLL

Jackie von Borstel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank von Borstel, who is a student in his first year at OSC was named on the honor roll at the end of the fall semester with a term grade of 3.63. He is a pre-med student and is taking several science subjects. He had 12 hours of A out of his total of 16.

Possibility of Actual Cost Being Charged Nears

Other Schools May Follow Lead of Wasco and Put Elementary Tuition Up

Possible change in the present charge for tuition of elementary school pupils by town schools may be made before another school term begins.

This year the Wasco school is charging \$150 for tuition of elementary pupils sent there for education. At both Grass Valley and Moro the actual charge is \$80 although, raises have been considered, or even voted.

Figures on the last full school year show that actual cost of giving education at Wasco was \$155.25. Cost at Moro was \$181.46, and at Grass Valley was \$142.56.

Costs vary each year some times to a large extent, because of school costs that differ from one year to another. Over a period of years costs do not vary much between schools. Pay of teachers has the greatest influence on cost of education.

Means of giving residents of rural districts some control over expenses of town schools to which they pay expenses do not exist. To have a part in town school affairs it would be necessary for them to join the town district. Towns in Sherman county are so small that rural residents could easily dominate school affairs if such consolidations were made.

Despite a consistently conservative policy on the part of the majority of school officers and citizens of the county there has been a good deal of change in the school system in the past five to ten years. There is now three high schools instead of five with indications that there may be one before there will be five again. No rural school is still in operation although there has been little tendency to consolidate districts except when necessary by law.

The districts in the south end of the county have consolidated into one making the most modern district as to size and coverage of pupils attending within the borders of the county.

The younger people who are living on farms are more inclined toward school consolidation than are their elders. And the younger ones have the children if not the property.

Farmers Intend To Plant Heavily

A widespread intention among Oregon farmers to try again for an all-out record production of those crops and livestock products most needed to help win the war was noted in the 36 county agricultural planning meetings held jointly by the state Agricultural Adjustment agency and the O. S. C. Extension service. At these meetings leading farmers sat down with members of the county war boards to decide on plans for this year.

Reports on these meetings submitted to R. B. Taylor, state AAA chairman, and William A. Schoenfeld, director of extension, showed that while farmers are fully aware of the continued problems they face, they are more interested in discussing ways and means of getting the job done than in registering complaints about their admitted difficulties.

One bright spot in the production picture is the fact that a mild winter in Oregon so far has resulted in relatively light use of feed so that if even normal conditions are experienced between now and spring the threatened critical feed shortage that loomed last fall may largely be averted.

A more detailed report of planting and production plans throughout the state is being prepared.

Howard Conlee Awarded D.F.C. For Service

Mr and Mrs L. R. Conlee have received official notification that their son, Howard M. who served 13 months in the middle east as a member of the 515 Bombardment Sqdn, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for participation in the fighting in that zone.

The citation reads: "Howard M. Conlee, technical sergeant, for distinguished and meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight against the enemy in the Middle East theatre of operations. The outstanding skill displayed by Serg. Conlee in carrying out his duties as Aerial engineer has been a contributory factor in the successes achieved by the 376 Bombardment Group in the middle east, in the support of the Allied invasion of Sicily, and in the strategic bombing of Italy and other European targets. He has shown unwavering courage, as well as a consistent desire to serve."

Howard is now at Berry College in Georgia, attending school preparatory to taking instruction as a pilot.

NFLA Buys Bonds; \$6000 Credited Here

An investment of \$6000 in War Bonds by the Federal Land Bank of Spokane has been credited to Sherman county, Victor G. Peterson, secretary treasurer of the Dalles Group National Farm Loan association, revealed today.

The bank has just invested \$3,000,000 in Series A Treasury Certificates as its part in the Fourth War Loan drive, R. E. Brown, president, advised, Mr. Peterson. Each of the four states served by the bank, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon, has been credited with \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 has been credited to the city of Spokane, headquarters of the bank.

Consolidated Cuts Service Along Route

Consolidated Freightways, Inc., having already curtailed service to some towns in eastern Oregon has asked Public Utilities commissioner, George Flagg, for permission to discontinue daily service to 50 other towns in Oregon. Reason given is lack of manpower and desire to prevent delays.

Nearby towns through which the big trucks will roll without stopping are Biggs, Blaylock, Boardman, Heppner Junction, Miller, Mosier, Rufus. Branch lines of the service have already been discontinued or sold, for instance the John Day Valley line, which Platt and Freda McNurr have purchased.

Wasco Young People Honor Organizations

Last Thursday evening the Methodist parsonage was the scene of the Standard Bearers girls and the Choir boys annual birthday dinner, after the feast they sang songs until time to go to the home of Mr and Mrs Leslie Blakeney for dessert and games. On Friday evening the Junior Leaguers and friends had a dinner and evening of games in the church basement. Both functions were very nice affairs for the young people involved.

Andrew Landles Dies At Daughter's Home

A Landles, well known band leader in our school for several years, whose resignation late last fall caused much regret, died January 21st at the home of his daughter in Marshfield. He was buried Monday, January 24, at that place. His friends in Wasco deeply regret his death.

War Bond Sale Reports Not Encouraging

E Bonds Sell Slower Than In September and Other Issues Barely Move

Reported sales of bonds in Sherman county indicates considerably less interest in buying than in September, according to the men actually in the field.

That this is not due to lack of money is proven by the fact that more money is in the hands of farmers and others than in September when the Third War Loan campaign began.

The slackened inclination to buy war bonds has not been so evident in the sale of E bonds as in the other issues. The county's total quota is \$142,100 of which \$89,400 is to be in E bonds. This leaves \$52,700 to be raised from the sale of other bonds and to corporations.

Reports from headquarters of allotments made to this county from corporation quotas have not yet arrived and the only known allotment is \$8,000 from the National Farm Loan Association. Others, however, have made bond purchases in the state.

The county quota for other than E bonds and other than corporation bonds is \$37,000. If all this amount was bought in Series G notes with which income tax can be paid it would be a small part of the county's income tax payments.

The Sherman County Branch, First National bank has sold \$47,475 in E bonds, the Wasco postoffice \$13,631.25, the Moro postoffice \$2475.00 and the Grass Valley postoffice has an estimated \$20,000 making a total of \$83,581.25. Inasmuch as a large part of the county's income tax has been covered by bond salesmen this total, although near the quota, is not as large as the county usually achieves at this stage of the campaign.

Of other bonds \$1648 have been reported sold and more will need to be done to bring the county up to its quota in this part of the drive.

The Grass Valley area was organized Sunday when A. A. Dunlap, local chairman, called a meeting for that purpose. Solicitors were named for the different sections around that town. Harold and Dell Eakin took the eastern section from the Rutledge road north, George Wilcox and L. K. Smith worked from there to the Finnegan road, Art Schilling and Millard Eakin took the southwest district and E. M. Alley and Tom Garrett the town with Mr. Dunlap filling in.

Neighbors Have Concrete Pouring

Reminiscent of an old time barn raising about ten farmers came to town Tuesday and helped LeRoy Wright pour the concrete for the walls of the foundation to his new house.

The forms have been up several days and everything was in readiness including a power mixer, plenty of sand and gravel and labor. The entire job was finished in one day although the short winter day was pretty well over before the last barrow full was dumped.

It is expected that the house will be moved onto the foundation shortly.

ELMER PEARSON BURIED

Elmer Pearson, who has worked for many years at the Becker ranch, died there Sunday night at the age of 67. Swedish born, he has been in the United States since a young man. He has three sisters, Hilma Pearson in Los Angeles, Mrs. Anna Andahl of Los Angeles and Mrs. C. Lindquist of Minneapolis. Funeral services were held at Kent with interment being made in the cemetery there.